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# PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS

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## DISEASE AND WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

AN EMPLOYEE WHO SUFFERS FROM LEAD POISONING IS NOT ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION UNDER THE CONNECTICUT LAW.

The Supreme Court of Errors of Connecticut has decided that the Connecticut workmen's compensation law does not provide for payments to an employee who suffers from an occupational disease.

An employee of the American Steel & Wire Co. was incapacitated for a short time by lead poisoning contracted in the course of his employment. The court decided that he was not entitled to compensation.

The opinions of Mr. Justice Beach, in delivering the decision of the court, and of Mr. Justice Wheeler, dissenting, are interesting discussions of the question presented to the court. They are published on pages 2797 to 2810 of this issue of the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER IN CALIFORNIA.

In May, 1916, Dr. Frank L. Kelly, assistant epidemiologist of the bureau of communicable diseases of the California State Board of Health, made an investigation in Modoc and Lassen Counties, Cal., to determine the prevalence and geographic distribution of Rocky Mountain spotted fever in those counties.

His report, which was made to the director of the bureau of communicable diseases of the California State Board of Health, shows that he had reports of 38 cases, 6 in Modoc County and 32 in Lassen County. The following table, the figures of which are taken from his report, shows the number of cases and the mortality by years:

Year.	Modoc County.		Lassen County.		Year.	Modoc County.		Lassen County.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
1903.....	1				1913.....			2	
1904.....	1	1			1914.....			2	
1908.....			1	1	1915.....			11	2
1909.....	1		2		1916 <sup>1</sup> .....	2		8	
1911.....			3	1					
1912.....	1		3	1	Total.....	6	1	32	5

<sup>1</sup> The figures for 1916 are not complete.